



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CONSOLIDATED BUSINESS CENTER, CINCINNATI, OH

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Ted Theopolos (859) 219-4036
Frazer Lockhart, (202) 731-5659

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 18, 2008

DOE RELEASES DRAFT REQUEST FOR DUF6 OPERATIONS

Washington, DC -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today released a Draft Request for Proposal (DRFP) for the operation of two depleted uranium hexafluoride (DUF6) conversion facilities in Portsmouth, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. The total estimated value of this five-year contract is \$350 to \$450 million.

The DUF6 Operation contracts include activities to convert DOE's inventory of DUF6 to a more stable chemical form acceptable for transportation, beneficial reuse, or disposal. Additionally, the contracts will provide cylinder surveillance and maintenance of the DUF6 inventory, low-enrichment uranium hexafluoride (UF6), natural assay UF6, and empty and "heel" cylinders in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner.

The solicitation intends to award one contractor with two cost-plus award-fee contracts to operate the DUF6 facilities located at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Ohio and the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Kentucky. The contract is anticipated to be awarded for a start date in late 2010.

The DRFP consists of the Statement of Work and a few additional sections of the uniform contract format. Potential offerors are invited to review and provide comments to the DOE during a 40-day comment period, which ends January 27, 2009. The DRFP and instructions for commenting will be posted on the Federal Business Opportunities webpage per agency policy.

The DUF6 Operations contracts address the legacy waste from uranium enrichment begun as part of atomic bomb development by the Manhattan Project during World War II. Since the 1950s, DUF6 has been stored at Portsmouth and Paducah in large steel cylinders. Cylinders formerly at Oak Ridge, Tennessee have been relocated to the Portsmouth site.

Further information about DUF6 can be found at:
<http://www.emcbc.doe.gov/DUF6/index.html>

-DOE-